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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/057,208	01/25/2002	Peter N. Glynos	PNG-101A	1722

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EXAMINER

RAMIREZ, RAMON O

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3632

DATE MAILED: 04/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/057,208

Applicant(s)

GLYNOS, PETER N.

Examiner

RAMON O. RAMIREZ

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 March 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

***Detailed Action***

This is the second Office Action corresponding to amendment filed Mar 24, 2003.

It is note that the title of the invention listed in the amendment is wrong.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

Claims 21-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Myers.

The patent to Myers shows a flexible cover to protect items from weather elements comprising a sheet and anchors 20 to be filled with a weight as water to anchor the cover. The material from which the anchor elements (20) are made from is not disclosed by the patent. However, to make them of the same material as that of the cover is considered to be an obvious matter of engineering choice with no patentable significance. The location of the anchors is also considered to be an obvious matter of engineering choice or expediency again having no patentable significance. To make the anchor compartments not linked together is considered an obvious matter of engineering choice to reduce cost. It has been accepted to eliminate a member together with its function.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed March 24, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Myers does not show separate and apart anchor compartments. The examiner respectfully disagrees. Myers anchor compartements are

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separated and apart from each other. The examiner would construct Applicant's statement as being that the instant invention anchor compartments cannot be filled simultaneously, and have no connection between them. Myers' anchor compartments can be filled individually, or simultaneously. However, this does not preclude others from using more, or less compartments, in different locations, or not connected to each other (elimination of a member together with its function is acceptable) to for example reduce cost. This modification does not destroy the main purpose of the invention, which is to provide a cover for protecting materials from the weather elements.

***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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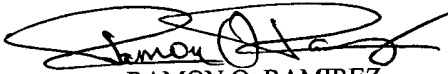
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner **Ramírez** at telephone number (703) 308-0748.

The examiner can be normally reached on Monday-Thursday and alternate Fridays.

The fax numbers for this Group are (703) 872-9326 (official papers), (703) 872-9327 (official after final papers) and (703) 308-3519 (for informal papers). Our Customer service fax number is (703) 872-9325.

Any inquiry of general nature relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

R.O. RAMIREZ  
April 10, 2003

  
RAMON O. RAMIREZ  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
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ART UNIT 3632